

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 7, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 16, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2048

Introduced by Assembly Member Gray
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Waldron and Wood)

February 17, 2016

An act to amend Section 127940 of, and to add Section 127945 to, the Health and Safety Code, relating to health professions development, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2048, as amended, Gray. National Health Service Corps State Loan Repayment Program.

Existing law provides that in administering the National Health Service Corps State Loan Repayment Program in accordance with federal law and regulations, the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development is required to strive, whenever feasible, to equitably distribute loan repayment awards between eligible urban and rural program sites, after taking into account the availability of health care services in the communities to be served and the number of individuals to be served in each program site.

This bill would require the office to include all federally qualified health centers located in California in the program's certified eligible site list. The bill would require the office to notify all certified eligible sites when the program opens each application cycle and to strive, to the extent possible, to maximize the number of applications received each cycle. The bill would require the office to submit an annual report,

as specified, to the Senate and Assembly Committees on Health that includes, among other things, the number of applications received during the annual application cycle and the percentage of applicants ~~who~~ *that* were awarded funding.

This bill would continuously appropriate \$1,000,000 from the General Fund each fiscal year to the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development for the purpose of providing state matching funds to the National Health Service Corps State Loan Repayment Program. The bill would prohibit the office from requiring program applicants or participants to provide matching funds ~~in years~~ *any year* that the office receives these matching ~~funds~~ *funds, but would require a program applicant to agree to provide matching funds in any year in which the office does not receive state matching funds, as specified.*

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 127940 of the Health and Safety Code
- 2 is amended to read:
- 3 127940. (a) In administering the National Health Service Corps
- 4 State Loan Repayment Program in accordance with Section 254q-1
- 5 of Title 42 of the United States Code and related federal
- 6 regulations, the Office of Statewide Health Planning and
- 7 Development shall strive, whenever feasible, to equitably distribute
- 8 loan repayment awards between eligible urban and rural program
- 9 sites, after taking into account the availability of health care
- 10 services in the communities to be served and the number of
- 11 individuals to be served in each program site.
- 12 (b) The office shall set a reasonable deadline for when all
- 13 applications are required to be received.
- 14 (c) All eligible applications shall be given consideration before
- 15 any award is granted.
- 16 (d) The office shall include all federally qualified health centers
- 17 located in California in the program's certified eligible site list.
- 18 (e) The office shall notify all certified eligible sites when the
- 19 program opens each application cycle and shall strive, to the extent
- 20 possible, to maximize the number of applications received each
- 21 cycle.

1 (f) *As part of the initial application process, program applicants*
2 *shall agree to provide matching funds in any year that the office*
3 *does not receive state matching funds pursuant to Section 127945.*

4 ~~(f) The~~

5 (g) *Notwithstanding subdivision (f), the office shall not require*
6 *program applicants and participants to provide matching funds in*
7 *years any year that the office receives state matching funds*
8 *pursuant to Section 127945.*

9 ~~(g)~~

10 (h) The office shall submit an annual report to the Senate and
11 Assembly Committees on Health that includes all of the following
12 information:

13 (1) The number of applications received during the annual
14 application cycle.

15 (2) The percentage of applicants ~~who~~ *that* were awarded funding
16 under the program.

17 (3) The percentage of applicants ~~who~~ *that* were not awarded
18 funding under the program.

19 (4) The percentage of funding that went to each geographic
20 region in the state.

21 ~~(h)~~

22 (i) (1) The requirement for submitting a report pursuant to
23 subdivision ~~(g)~~ (h) is inoperative on January 1, 2021, pursuant to
24 Section 10231.5 of the Government Code.

25 (2) A report submitted pursuant to subdivision ~~(g)~~ (h) shall be
26 submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government
27 Code.

28 SEC. 2. Section 127945 is added to the Health and Safety Code,
29 to read:

30 127945. Notwithstanding Section 13340 of the Government
31 Code, the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) is hereby
32 continuously appropriated, from the General Fund in the State
33 Treasury, without regard to fiscal year, to the Office of Statewide
34 Health Planning and Development for purposes of providing state
35 matching funds for the National Health Service Corps State Loan
36 Repayment Program pursuant to Section 127940.